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## Searching the Connexions Web Site

How to launch a search, the parts of a search results and refining a search with limiting factors.

## Starting a Search

The best way to learn about how to search is to get a little bit of understanding and then practice (play around with searching). Within Connexions you can launch a search in one of two ways:

1. Via the Content Tab
2. Via the Search Box

In the examples below, we demonstrate the two methods by searching for “Programming”.

## Content Tab – Search Box

The screenshot shows the Connexions website interface in a Windows Internet Explorer browser. The address bar displays the URL <http://cnx.org/content/>. The browser's Favorites bar includes links to 'KLE's Gene States Pg', 'KLE's Gene Research Pg', 'Quick Access Page', 'col10621', 'OER OCW', 'col11154', 'Google Analytics', 'cnx Consortium', 'HCC Affiliation Lens', and 'blog.cnx.org'. The website's navigation bar features the 'CONNEXIONS' logo and links for 'Home', 'Content', 'Lenses', 'About Us', 'Help', and 'MyCNX'. The 'Content' link is circled in red. A search box is located in the top right corner, with a 'Search' button next to it. Below the navigation bar, a section titled 'Search for Content' contains a search input field with the text 'Programming' and a 'Search' button. To the right of the search box, a 'Recent Searches' section lists three items: 'OER [282 matches]', 'Programming (author, title) Busbee (author, title) [collections only] [1 matches]', and 'Programming (title, author) Busbee (title, author) [collections only] [1 matches]'. Below the search box, a 'Browse Content' section is divided into three tabs: '1. BROWSE', '2. REFINE', and '3. VIEW'. The '1. BROWSE' tab is active, showing a list of filters: 'Subject', 'Title', 'Author', 'Keyword', 'Popularity', 'Language', 'Revision Date', 'Institution', and 'All Collections'. On the right side of the page, there are three sections: 'MY ACCOUNT' with fields for 'Username' and 'Password' and a 'Log In' button; 'REPOSITORY' showing 'Total Collections: 980' and 'Total Modules: 16007'; and 'RECENTLY VIEWED' with a list of collections including 'Programming Fundamentals - A Modular Structured Approach using C++' and 'Authoring Connexions Modules using Microsoft Word Documents'. The footer of the page states 'Connexions® is supported by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Maxfield Foundation, and the Connexions Consortium.' and includes the Creative Commons logo.

Type in “Programming” via the Content tab

## Results of the Search

Both of the above methods result in the Connexions web site looking for the word “programming” anywhere within the repository including the title, keywords, summary and module content. The results of the above search are:

# Search Results – Slide 1

The screenshot shows the Connexions website search results for the term "Programming". The page displays 2877 results. A blue box titled "Parts of the Search" lists four numbered steps: 1. Limit items, 2. View, 3. Sort by, and 4. Results per page. These steps are annotated on the page with red boxes containing the same numbers. Annotation 1 points to the search filters (Limit search to: Title, Author, Collections, All Subjects). Annotation 2 points to the view options (View: Detail | Compact | Statistics). Annotation 3 points to the sort and results per page controls (Sort by: Relevance, Results per page: 10). Annotation 4 points to the repository statistics (Total Collections: 980, Total Modules: 16007). The search results list includes items like "Objects and Object-Oriented Programming", "An Introduction to the Partitioned Global Address Space (PGAS) Programming Model", and "More Java GUI Programming".

Parts of the Search

1. Limit items
2. View
3. Sort by
4. Results per page

Connexions - Content - Search - Windows Internet Explorer

http://cnx.org/content/search/words=Programming&allterms=weakAND&search=Search&subject=

Connexions - Content - Search

Log In | Contact Us | Report a Bug | Donate

Programming

Search

Home Content Lenses About Us Help MyCNX

You are here: Home > Content

Search for Content

2877 results for: **Programming**

Limit search to: ☐ Title ☐ Author ☐ Collections

1

All Subjects

Recent Searches

- Programming [2877 matches]
- "Science and Technology" (subject) Programming (title, author) Busbee (title, author) (collections only) (1 matches)
- "Science and Technology" (subject) Programming (title, author) (collections only) (1 matches)

2

View: Detail | Compact | Statistics

3

Sort by: Relevance

Results per page: 10

4

MY ACCOUNT

Username

Password

Log In

Get an account

Forgot your password?

REPOSITORY

Total Collections: 980

Visit a random collection

Total Modules: 16007

Visit a random module

RECENTLY VIEWED

Collections

- Programming Fundamentals - A Modular Structural Approach using C++
- Authoring Connexions Modules using Microsoft Word Documents

Objects and Object-Oriented Programming (m32206)

Author: Neels van der Westhuizen

Keywords: java, object-orientated programming, object-orientation, programming

An Introduction to the Partitioned Global Address Space (PGAS) Programming Model (m20649)

Author: Tim Sott Ph.D.

Keywords: Chapel, Co-Array Fortran (CAF), Parallel Programming Model, PGAS, Titanium, Unified Parallel C (UPC), X10

Summary: This module ... programming paradigm. This paradigm provides both a data and execution model that has the potential to dramatically improve runtime performance and programmer productivity on increasingly ubiquitous multi-core architectures. The fundamental principles of the PGAS paradigm are presented in comparison with traditional parallel programming models. Furthermore, the richer "Asynchronous PGAS" programming ... and X10. [Expand Summary]

More Java GUI Programming (m17186)

Authors: Stephen Wong, Dung Nguyen

Keywords: command, command design pattern, gui, java, java gui, java gui programming, null-object pattern, programming

Summary: Java GUI programming including basic event handling, adapters, and the command and null-object design patterns.

Subject: Science and Technology

Language: English

Popularity: 35.65%

Revised: 2009-10-02

Revisions: New

Rating: Not yet rated

Subject: Science and Technology

Language: English

Popularity: 77.54%

Revised: 2009-09-27

Revisions: 6

Rating: Not yet rated

Subject: Science and Technology

Language: English

Popularity: 88.69%

Revised: 2008-07-24

Revisions: 2

Rating: Not yet rated

Internet | Protected Mode: On

4:52 PM

Search results from “Programming”

The parts and general information about the search results are as follows:

1. Limit search to: - An area where you can check or select additional limiting factors to reduce the search results.
  - Title – At least one of the search words must be in the module or collection title
  - Author – At least one of the search words must be in the author's name
  - Collections – Return only collections (no modules)
  - Subjects Pull Down – Pick from one of the subject areas identified by authors when they create modules or collections
2. View – “Lens” is the normal default. The user (or viewer) may choose from the following views which always show the title and author, plus:
  - Detail – shows the author's institution, keywords and summary for the module or collection; if they exist
  - Compact – shows only the title and author
  - Statistics – shows total view, views per day, percentile ranking and raw module count ranking. Since there are over 15,000 modules and collections, any raw ranking of 1,500 or lower would be in the top 10% of materials viewed. The percentile ranking may be more useful because it will not be distorted over time. As the Connexions repository grows (let's say to 30,000 modules and collections) the raw ranking of 1,500 or lower would represent the top 5% of the repository. Statistics might be a **measure of quality**, but you should consider that usage (forced upon students using a collection as a textbook) and quality are not necessarily interchangeable.
3. Sort sequence – Usually in “Type” sequence which places the “Selected Content” (Item 6) with collections first and modules second; each group sorted alphabetically. The user (or viewer) of the lens may choose from the following sort sequences:
  - Relevance

- Popularity
- Language
- Revision Date
- Title
- Type
- Rating – As rated by viewers of the modules. This feature was added during 2009 and may not be useful until more people rate modules within the Connexions repository. If rated by several people, it can be used as a **measure of quality**.

4. How many items show per page – adjustable by the user (or viewer) of the lens

## Refining a Search

The following slides show taking the results and adding additional search limiting factors to reduce the search results.

1. Programming
2. Limiting the search to the Science and Technology subjects
3. Limiting the search to modules or collections that have “programming” in the title
4. Limiting the search to only collections
5. Adding an author’s name to the search box and limiting the search to collections that have “programming” or “Busbee” in the title and also have “programming” or “Busbee” in the author’s name

## Search Results 1, 2 and 3 – Slide 2

**Search for Content** **Results 1**

**2877 results for: Programming**

Programming

Limit search to: ☐ Title ☐ Author ☐ Collections  
All Subjects

**Search for Content** **Results 2**

**1222 results for: "Science and Technology" (subject) AND Programming**

Programming

Limit search to: ☐ Title ☐ Author ☐ Collections  
Science and Technology

*Recent Searches*

- "Science and Technology" (subject) AND Programming [1222 matches]
- Programming [2877 matches]
- Oer [282 matches]

**Search for Content** **Results 3**

**78 results for: "Science and Technology" (subject) AND Programming (title)**

Programming

Limit search to: ☒ Title ☐ Author ☐ Collections  
Science and Technology

*Recent Searches*

- "Science and Technology" (subject) AND Programming (title) [78 matches]
- "Science and Technology" (subject) AND Programming [1222 matches]
- Programming [2877 matches]

Search Results 1, 2 and 3

## Search Results 4 and 5 – Slide 3

### Search for Content

#### Results 4

8 results for: **"Science and Technology"** (subject) AND **Programming** (title) (collections only)

Programming

Limit search to: ☒ Title ☐ Author ☒ Collections  
Science and Technology

Recent Searches

- "Science and Technology" (subject) Programming (title) (collections only) [1222 matches]
- "Science and Technology" (subject) Programming (title) (collections only) [1222 matches]
- "Science and Technology" (subject) Programming (title) (collections only) [1222 matches]

### Search for Content

#### Results 5

1 results for: **"Science and Technology"** (subject) AND **Programming** (title, author) AND **Busbee** (title, author) (collections only)

Programming Busbee

Limit search to: ☒ Title ☒ Author ☒ Collections  
Science and Technology

Recent Searches

- "Science and Technology" (subject) Programming (title, author) Busbee (title, author) (collections only) [1 matches]
- "Science and Technology" (subject) Programming (title, author) (collections only) [8 matches]
- "Science and Technology" (subject) Programming (title) (collections only) [8 matches]

(What are ☒ modules and ☒ collections?)

Sort by: Relevance Results per page: 10

View: Detail | Compact | Statistics

**Programming Fundamentals - A Modular Structured Approach using C++** (col10621)

**Author:** Kenneth Leroy Busbee  
**Institution:** Houston Community College  
**Keywords:** C++, modular structured programming, programming fundamentals  
**Summary:** Programming Fundamentals - A Modular Structured Approach using C++ is written by Kenneth Leroy Busbee, a faculty member at Houston Community College in Houston, Texas. The materials used in this textbook/collection were developed by the author and others as independent modules for publication within the Connexions environment. Programming fundamentals are often ... three courses. [\[Expand Summary\]](#)

**Subject:** Science and Technology  
**Language:** English  
**Popularity:** 98.89%  
**Revised:** 2010-01-15  
**Revisions:** 19

Popularity is measured as percentile rank of page views/day over all time

## Search Results 4 and 5

### Practice Searching

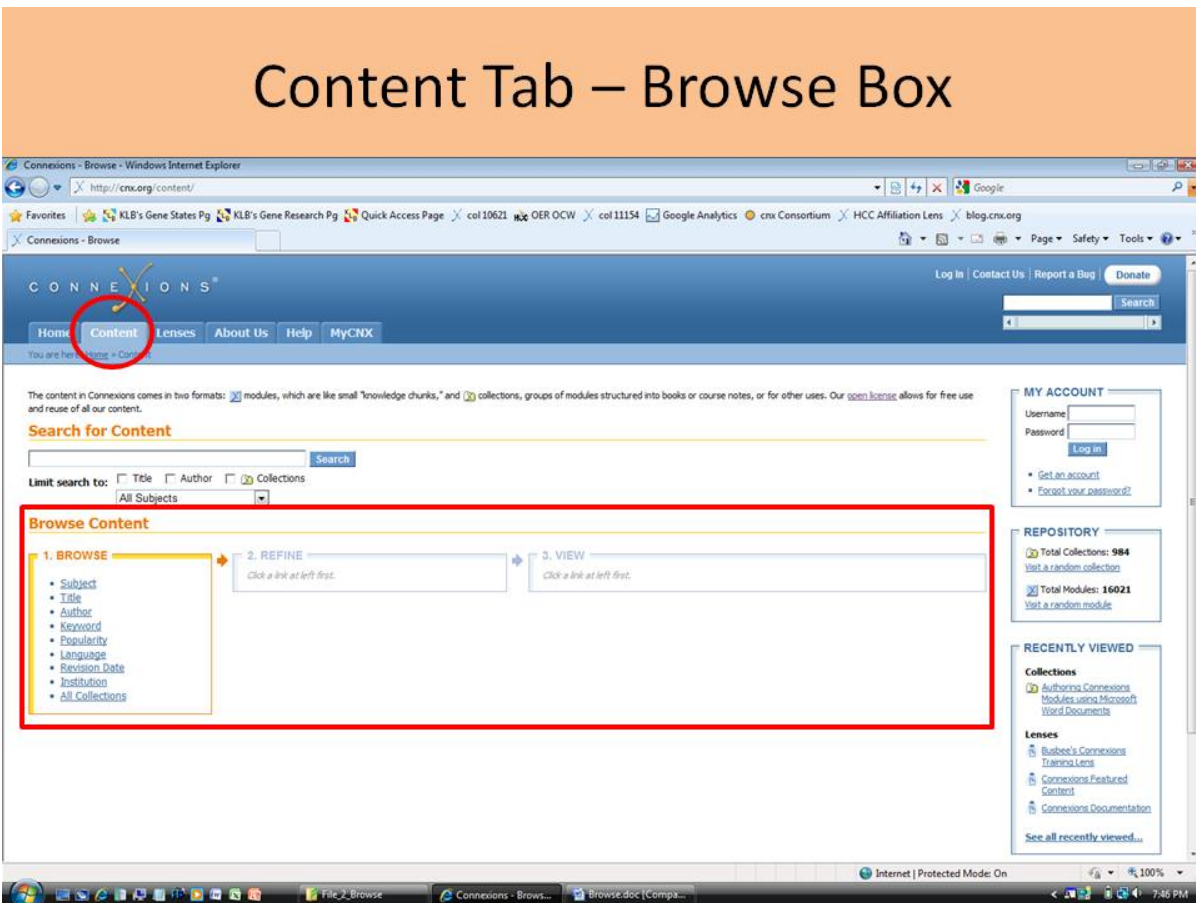
The best way to understand how to do searching is to practice or play with them. A suggestion is to practice all of the items in this module. Remember, over time additional items will be added to the repository and your search results may vary.

## Browsing the Connexions Web Site

How to use the browse feature on the Connexions web site.

### Browsing

The best way to learn about how to browse is to get a little bit of understanding and then practice (play around with the browse feature).



Content Tab reveals the Browse Content area

Browse has limited uses. After selecting an item from the “1. Browse” box; the “2. Refine” box will provide a second set of limiting choices. Often the

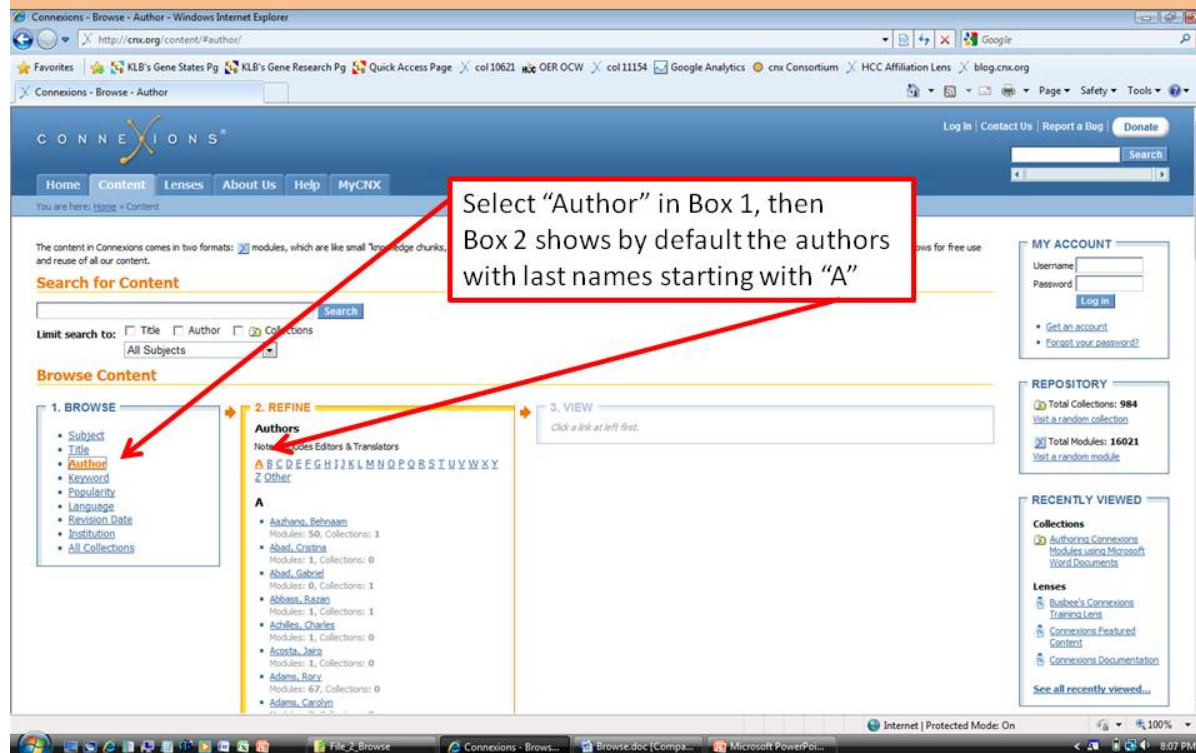


limiting choices are the alphabet and you select a letter. When it shows the list you scroll down and select the item you want. Let's show one practical examples: searching for an author.

## Author Example

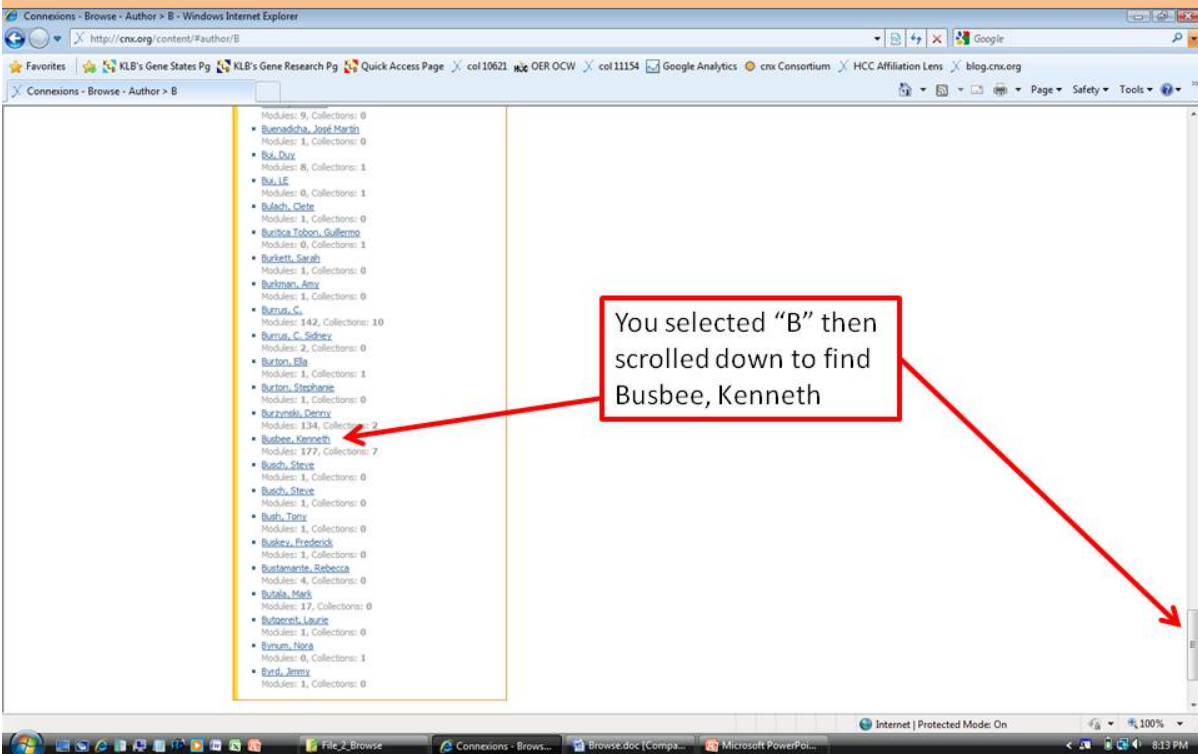
Let's search for content created by Kenneth Leroy Busbee.

### Browsing for an Author – Slide 1



### Browsing for an Author – Slide 1

## Browsing for an Author – Slide 2



Browsing for an Author – Slide 2

## Browsing for an Author – Slide 3

When you select the author Box 3 – View shows the Content by that author

## Browsing for an Author – Slide 3

### Practice Browsing

The best way to understand how to do browsing is to practice or play with it. Remember, over time additional items will be added to the repository and your browse results will change.

## Why You should Create a Personal Connexions Account

The several reasons (saving your place as you read a collection, rating modules, creating lenses and building content) for having a Connexions account are highlighted. Included are directions to general training on how to understand and use the Connexions web site and these features.

## Several Good Reasons

With a Connexions account you can:

- Provide feedback to authors and other users by **rating modules** – This feedback from all users (other authors, students using textbook collections, etc.) helps authors decide which modules need improving and helps other users in evaluating the quality of repository content.
- Have your own “My Favorites” **lens** and make other “Member List” **lenses**
  - **Save your place** when reading through a collection is a feature of the “My Favorites” lens
  - You can make your own private “Member List” lenses to create the ability for you to **focus on part of the repository**
- **Improve the quality of instructional materials and scholarly works** available to the world via the Internet – free 24/7
  - **Contribute** materials that you author to the Connexions repository
  - **Remix or change** (customize) materials provided by others that are in the Connexions repository
  - **Build collections** (a group of modules) that specifically serve your students or audience from modules that you either create, improve or use without changing

Often being an author, is over emphasized and pushed as the number one reason to get a Connexions account. Having authors contribute to the repository is important; however usage of the repository by users is equally important. **Increasing quality content** in the Connexions repository goes

**hand in hand** with **increased usage of that content**. It's like the Chinese "Yin & Yang", both are important. We encourage all to create an personal account.



Yin & Yang

## Available Training

A link is provided (in the box at the upper right corner of this module's page) to the "Busbee's Connexions Training" lens. It contains six collections that cover:

1. Understanding the Vision of Connexions
2. How to Search and Browse the Connexions Web Site (includes rating modules)
3. Effectively Using and Creating Connexions Lenses
4. Authoring Connexions Modules using Microsoft Word Documents
5. Ideas and Tools for Improving Connexions Modules and Collections
6. Appendix Materials for a Connexions Collection used as a College Course

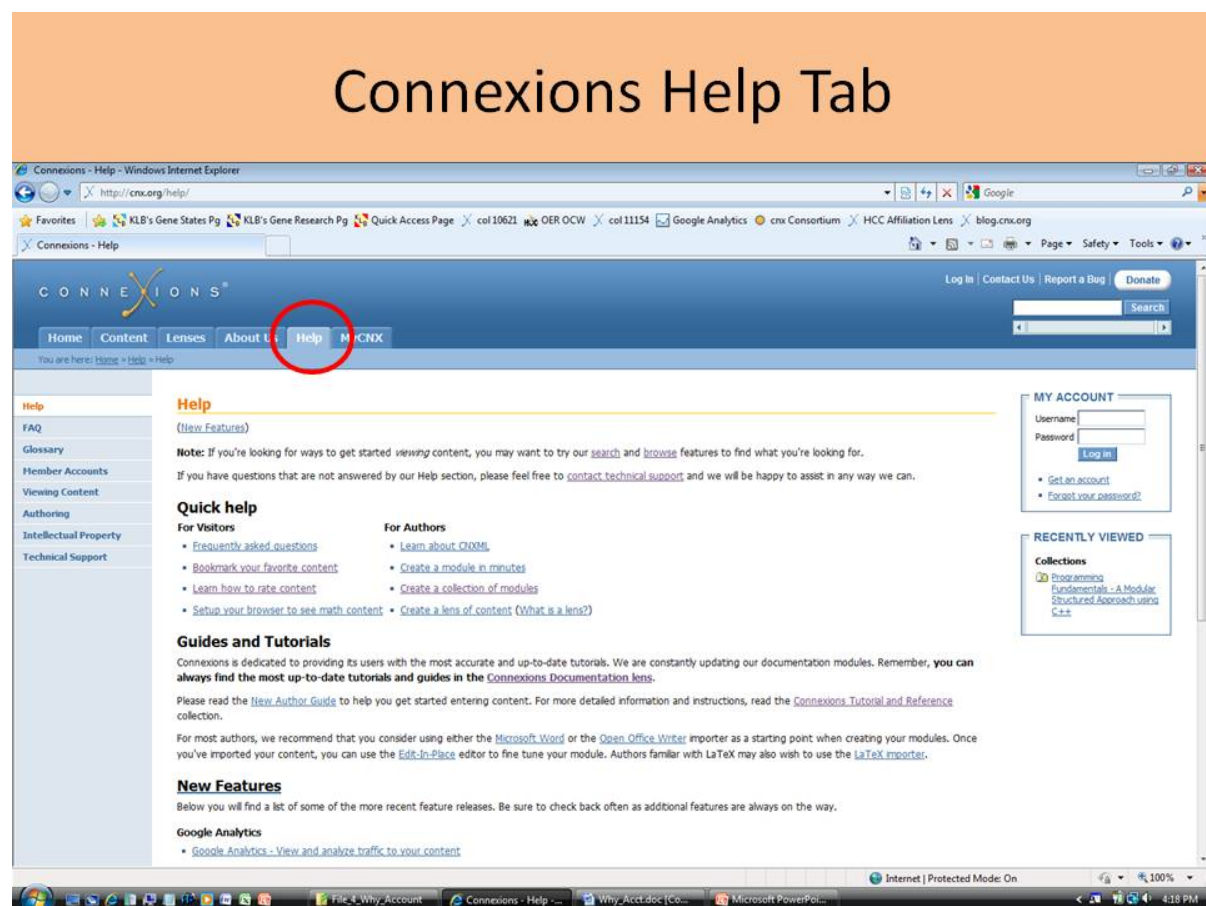
Each collection consists of several modules. The items appear alphabetically within the lens; however the "Lens Comments" for each item has its item position number similar to the list above. **The first four items provide a natural progression for training.**

You might want to bookmark the URL to the lens in your browser. The link is: <http://cnx.org/lenses/kbusbee/cnx-training>

## Connexions Help

Don't hesitate to use the "Help" tab on the connexions home page at: <http://cnx.org/>

It is organized differently than the above training collections, but contains ample information on how to use the Connexions Project. Don't be afraid to click on something. Some of the menu items on the left expand as you click on them.



Connexions Help Tab



## Creating a Connexions Account

Some pointers on creating a good Member Profile as you create your Connexions account. How to modify your Member Profile.

### Create an Account

From the Connexions home page at: <http://cnx.org> select the “Get an account” under Step 1. Follow the process as directed. When prompted for “Member Profile” information you should complete fields as appropriate. The following will help you to complete certain areas.

#### Affiliation – Institution

You should review how others are typing their “Affiliation” and type yours the same. For example: authors from Houston Community College could use: HCC or Houston CC or Houston Community College. However, they should all use: Houston Community College. This is not super important for the profile, but you will want to type the “Institution” field in a collection consistently so collections created by authors from the same institution will all show up together when users do an institution search. The following two slides show you how to browse to the “Institutions” search and review what authors from your institution are using for their affiliation/institution name.



# Browsing by: Title, author, etc.

Connexions - Sharing Knowledge and Building Communities - Windows Internet Explorer

http://cnx.org/

Connexions - Sharing Knowledge and Building Communities

Log In | Contact Us | Report a Bug | Donate

Home Content Lenses About Us Help MyCNX

**Connexions is:**  
a place to view and share educational material made of small knowledge chunks called modules that can be organized as courses, books, reports, etc. Anyone may view or contribute:

- **authors** create and collaborate
- **instructors** rapidly build and share custom collections
- **learners** find and explore content

[More about us...](#) [New features](#)

**FIND CONTENT**  
15653 reusable modules woven into 951 collections.

Search Content

or browse by ...

Subject  
Language  
Popularity  
**Title, author, etc.**

- Title
- Author
- Keyword
- Revision date

**CREATE CONTENT**  
Creating content in Connexions is as easy as 1, 2, 3:

- 1 Get an account and log in to your workspace.
- 2 Make a module from scratch or convert it from a Word doc.
- 3 Publish your works, sharing them with the world.

**Jump right in**

- [Get an account](#)
- [How to create a module in minutes](#)
- [How to create a collection with existing modules](#)

**Guides and tutorials**

- [New author guide](#)
- [Connexions Tutorial and Reference](#)

**FEATURED CONTENT**

**Advanced Algebra II**  
The world of second-year algebra comes alive in Kenny Felder's *Advanced Algebra II*. Felder, a high school math teacher in North Carolina, designed his course using a nontraditional approach to a very traditional subject. Centered around a *Homework and Activities* book, along with accompanying *Conceptual Explanations* and *Teacher's Guide* collections, *Advanced Algebra II* tackles topics by focusing on comprehension rather than straight lecture delivery.  
*Advanced Algebra II* was selected by California's [Free Digital Textbook Initiative](#) to be included in a list of free textbooks available to California schools starting in Fall 2009.

**Collaborative Statistics**  
*Collaborative Statistics* was written by two faculty members at De Anza College in Cupertino, California. This book is intended for introductory statistics courses being taken by students at two- and four-year colleges who are majoring in fields other than math or engineering. The textbook was developed over several years and has been used in regular and honors-level classroom settings and in

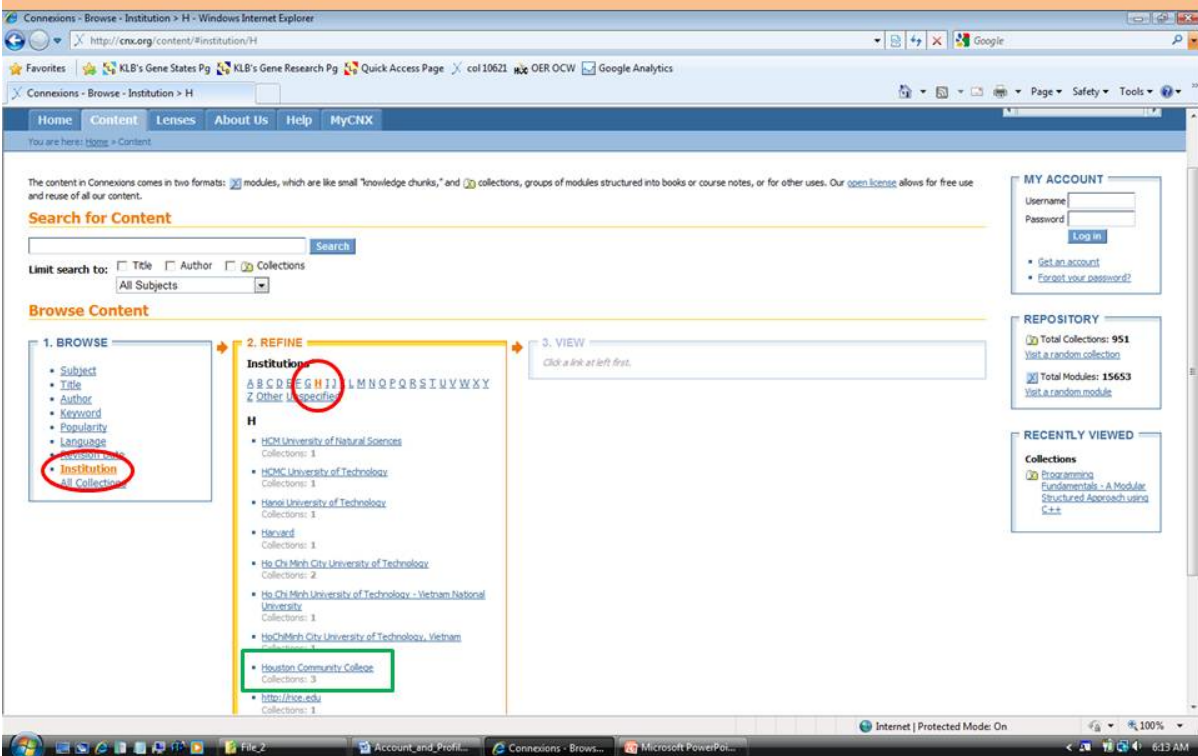
**MY ACCOUNT**  
Username   
Password   
  
• [Get an account](#)  
• [Forgot your password?](#)

**Support**  
CONNEXIONS  
with a donation.

**SPOTLIGHT**  
**User feedback**  
  
I am new to Connexions and am blown away with the project as a whole and with your modules in particular. I am a late blooming musician (32) from Detroit and I have increased my playing due to your [modules](#) and a few key Google™ searches. I'm not sure what the motivation is for all of this work but please keep it up!!!  
—Al D. Noel

Browsing

# Review the Institutions



## Reviewing institution names

**Note:** You could be the first author and might need to decide what to use for your institution.

## Biography – Short Biographical Sketch

Prepare a short biography about yourself. Information should include your current job, past employment, educational and professional attainments, etc.

## **Portrait – Picture**

Using your picture processing skills; modify a picture of yourself cropping it square. It should be no greater than 150 by 150 pixels on each side. Usually this file is stored in a .jpg format.

**Note:** The Connexions web site will shrink your picture to fit its allocated space; thus, to avoid distortion, you should make sure to crop the picture square.

## **Example**

A link is provided (in the box at the upper right corner of this module's page) to my "Member Profile" (for Kenneth Leroy Busbee) at Connexions.

## **Editing your Member Profile**

You can change your "Member Profile" at any time. This slide shows how to get to the page for changing it.

# Editing the Member Profile

The screenshot shows the Connexions website interface in a Windows Internet Explorer browser. The address bar displays [http://cnx.org/plone\\_memberprefs\\_panel](http://cnx.org/plone_memberprefs_panel). The browser's Favorites bar includes links to 'KLB's Gene States Pg', 'KLB's Gene Research Pg', 'Quick Access Page', 'cal 10621', 'OER OCW', and 'Google Analytics'. The website's navigation menu at the top includes 'Home', 'Content', 'Lenses', 'About Us', 'Help', and 'MyCNX'. A red arrow points from an orange callout box 'Once you have logged in, 1) click on MyCNX' to the 'MyCNX' link in the navigation menu. The main content area is titled 'Profile & Account Settings' and includes a sub-header 'Account Maintenance'. Under 'Account Maintenance', there are links for 'Change Password' and 'Edit Profile'. A red arrow points from an orange callout box '3) click on' to the 'Edit Profile' link. To the right of the main content area, there is a sidebar with a 'MY ACCOUNT' section. This section shows the user is 'khubee' and lists links for 'MyCNX Home', 'Profile & Account Settings', and 'My Favorites (edit)', along with a 'Log out' button. A red arrow points from an orange callout box '2) click on' to the 'Profile & Account Settings' link in the sidebar. Below the 'MY ACCOUNT' section, there are sections for 'RECENTLY VIEWED' (listing collections and modules) and 'CONNEXIONS NEWS'.

Once you have logged in, 1) click on MyCNX

2) click on

3) click on

Editing an Member Profile

Sharing/Rating Connexions Materials  
How to share Connexions modules and collections.

## **Historical Rating System**

At one time within Connexions there was a five (5) star rating system provided within each Connexions module. This feature was not often used and was discontinued.

## **Sharing Connexions Materials**

The five (5) star rating feature was replaced with several ways for users of Connexions materials to share with others. Available at the top and bottom of each module or collection are:

- Google's "+1"
- Facebook's "Like"
- twitter's "Tweet"

# Sharing Connexions Materials

The screenshot shows the Connexions website interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Content, Lenses, About Us, Help, and MyCNX. The main content area displays the title 'Programming Fundamentals - A Modular Structured Approach using C++' and the author 'Kenneth Leroy Busbee'. A table of contents is visible on the left. The page also features a 'Start' section with a summary and a 'This collection contains' section. Two red circles highlight the 'Add to Favorites' button (top right) and the 'Share Collection' button (bottom right).

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- Preface
- Author Acknowledgements
- Orientation and Syllabus
- Why You should Create a Personal Connexions Account
- Creating a Connexions Account
- Rating Connexions Modules
- 1. Introduction to Programming**
  - Systems Development Life Cycle
  - Bloodshed Dev-C++ S
  - Compiler/IDE
  - Modularization and C++
  - Program Layout
  - Practice 1: Introduction to Programming
- 2. Program Planning & Design**
- 3. Data & Operators**
  - Data Types in C++
  - Identifier Names
  - Constants and Variables
  - Data Manipulation
  - Assignment Operator

**Programming Fundamentals - A Modular Structured Approach using C++**  
Collection type: Course  
Course by: [Kenneth Leroy Busbee](#) [Email the author](#)

**Start »**

**Summary:** Programming Fundamentals - A Modular Structured Approach using C++ is written by Kenneth Leroy Busbee, a faculty member at Houston Community College in Houston, Texas. The materials used in this textbook/collection were developed by the author and others as independent modules for publication within the Connexions environment. Programming fundamentals are often divided into three college courses: Modular/Structured, Object Oriented and Data Structures. This textbook/collection covers the first of those three courses.

**Institution:** Houston Community College  
**Course Number:** COSC1436 - Programming Fundamentals I

**This collection contains:**  
**Modules by:** [Kenneth Leroy Busbee](#).

**GIVE FEEDBACK:**  
[Email the collection author](#)

**DOWNLOAD COLLECTION AS:**  
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**ADD COLLECTION TO:**  
[My Favorites](#) | [A lens I own](#) | [External bookmarks](#)

**REUSE / EDIT:**  
[Reuse or edit collection](#)

**SHARE COLLECTION:** [+1](#) 0 [Tweet](#) 2 [Like](#) 4

Sharing Connexions Materials